

Appl. No. 09/467,938
Atty. Docket No. 7897
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (cancelled).

Claim 10 (previously presented): A laminate web having a plurality of apertures, said laminate web comprising:

- (a) a first extensible web comprising a material selected from the group consisting of nonwoven, polymeric film, and combinations thereof, having a first elongation to break;
 - (b) a second extensible web comprising a material selected from the group consisting of nonwoven, polymeric film, and combinations thereof, joined to said first extensible web at a plurality of bond sites, the second extensible web having a second elongation to break; and
 - (c) a third web material disposed between said first and second extensible webs, said third material having a third elongation to break which is less than both of said first or second elongations to break, and said third material being apertured in regions coincident said bond sites;
- wherein said first and second extensible webs of said laminate web are apertured at said bond sites and said bond site has an aspect ratio greater than about 3.

Claim 11 (original): The laminate web of Claim 10, wherein said laminate is joined by bonds in the absence of adhesive.

Claim 12 (original): The laminate web of Claim 10, wherein said bond sites are discrete thermal bonds.

Claim 13 (original): The laminate web of Claim 10, wherein said first or second extensible web comprises a nonwoven.

Claim 14 (original): The laminate web of Claim 10, wherein said first and second extensible webs are identical.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The laminate web of Claim 10, wherein said third web material comprises is selected from the group consisting of cellulosic tissue paper, metal foil, polymeric film, open cell foam, paper, paper towels, and combinations thereof.

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Claims 16-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (currently amended): A laminate web having a plurality of apertures, said laminate web comprising:

- (a) a first and second ~~extensible~~ webs comprising a material selected from the group consisting of nonwoven, polymeric film, and combinations thereof, being joined and apertured at a plurality of discrete bond sites having an aspect ratio greater than about 3;
- (b) a third material disposed between said first and second ~~extensible~~ webs; and
- (c) the first and second ~~extensible~~ webs being in fluid communication via the apertures and having distinct regions being differentiated by at least one property selected from the group consisting of basis weight, fiber orientation, thickness, and density.

Claim 20 (original): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said laminate is joined by bonds in the absence of adhesive.

Claim 21 (original): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said bond sites are discrete thermal bonds.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said first or second ~~extensible~~ web comprises a nonwoven.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said first and second ~~extensible~~ webs are identical.

Claim 24 (original): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said third material comprises cellulosic tissue paper.

Claim 25 (original): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said third material comprises metal foil.

Claim 26 (original): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said third material is a polymeric film.

Claim 27 (original): The laminate web of Claim 19, wherein said third material is an open cell foam.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A disposable absorbent article comprising a laminate web having a plurality of apertures, said laminate web comprising:

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- a) first and second extensible webs being joined at a plurality of discrete bond sites;
- b) a third material disposed between said first and second nonwoven webs; and
- c) said first and second nonwoven webs being in fluid communication via the apertures and having distinct regions being differentiated by at least one property selected from the group consisting of basis weight, fiber orientation, thickness, and density.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The laminate web of Claim 28, wherein said first or second extensible web comprises a nonwoven.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The laminate web of Claim 28, wherein said third material comprises absorbent gelling material.

Claim 31 (new): A laminate web having a plurality of apertures, said laminate web comprising:

- (a) a first web having a first elongation to break;
- (b) a second web joined to said first web at a plurality of bond sites, the second web having a second elongation to break; and
- (c) a third web material disposed between said first and second webs, said third material having a third elongation to break which is less than both of said first or second elongations to break, and said third material being apertured in regions coincident said bond sites;

wherein said first and second webs of said laminate web are apertured at said bond sites and said bond site has an aspect ratio greater than about 3, a length of less than about 0.2 inches, and a width of less than about 0.02 inches.